

Cultural Daily

Independent Voices, New Perspectives

Finding Art in Environmental Damage

Stephen West · Monday, October 21st, 2024

Climate change is front and center in at least two of the dozens of [exhibitions](#) that make up the *Art and Science Collide* series now on view across Southern California museums. [The Huntington Library, Art Gallery, and Botanical Gardens](#) takes a historical approach with paintings and documents. [The Hammer Museum](#) is showing contemporary artworks that try to evoke what the environmental crisis looks like now and where we may be heading.

Storm Cloud: Picturing the Origins of Our Climate Change at the Huntington tells the story of how industrialization — first in Britain, later in America — led to environmental degradation. There are lots of 19th-century prints, ranging from British coal works to American railroads to a cartoon ichthyosaur — a large marine reptile — delivering a lecture to other huge reptiles about the now-extinct human race.



Philippe Jacques de Loutherbourg (French?British, 1740–1812), *Iron Works of Coalbrook Dale*, in *The Romantic and Picturesque Scenery of England and Wales*, 1805, aquatint in printed book. The

Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens.

Philippe Jacques de Loutherbourg's dramatic aquatint *Iron Works of Coalbrook Dale* of 1805 updates the typical English landscape by featuring one of the behemoths that were changing the country's economy forever. In the foreground, a man on horseback rides toward the foundry, which sits on a hill overlooking a river that cuts through forested mountains. Its enormous chimneys emit a yellowish-brown smoke that drifts over the valley. The picture reminds you of the entrance to the gates of hell.



Francis Michelin, (American, 1809 or 1810–1878), *Scott's European Fashions, for the Summer 1848, No. 146 Broadway, New York, 1848*, lithograph with hand coloring; Jay T. Last Collection, The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens.

Not all of the artworks in the show focus directly on the environment. An advertising sheet for a stylish New York clothing store, *Scott's European Fashions, for the Summer 1848*, shows more than a dozen dandies modeling the latest styles, including blond fur top hats for summer and dark ones for winter. As a wall label notes, people burned coal for warmth in winter, so dark hats and coats “became the preferred style ... because they showed less grime.”

The exhibition focuses on America's changing climate as well as Britain's. The artworks and wall texts show, for example, how the construction of the Erie Canal caused environmental damage. It explains how the plantation system in the South, with its focus on producing only one or two cash crops such as sugarcane, cotton, or tobacco, degraded the soil and reduced biological diversity. Still, the most powerful agent of climate change in America, particularly in the 20th century, was the development of an oil-based economy.

The use of petroleum rather than coal was undoubtedly a step forward, though it created its own environmental problems during both production and use. There's a powerful 1923 photograph showing dozens of oil rigs jammed together on Signal Hill in Southern California. You can't really see the routine oil spills associated with drilling, but they're undoubtedly there. And then there are the drilling rigs that catch fire or burn off natural gas or excess production.



Unknown photographer, *Oil Well Fire*, c. 1920s, photograph, The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens.

A black-and-white photograph of an oil rig, probably from the 1920s and taken by an unknown photographer, packs quite a punch. In what looks like an arid desert location, the derrick sits on the right side of the vertical picture. In the center, a man in a suit, tie, and hat strides toward the viewer. On the left is a gigantic plume of black smoke billowing into the sky. Did the man intentionally set the fire? Did one of the storage tanks in the background accidentally catch fire? We don't know, but the simple visual image of the black smoke rising so high into the sky is astonishing.

Storm Cloud: Picturing the Origins of Our Climate Crisis runs through January 6, 2025, at the Mary Lou and George Boone Gallery of the [Huntington Library, Art Gallery, and Botanical Gardens](#), 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California. The museum is closed on Tuesdays. An extensive catalog is published by the Huntington and Yale University Press.

Breath(e): Toward Climate and Social Justice

In contrast to the Huntington's scholarly and historical exhibition, the Hammer Museum at UCLA takes a contemporary approach to the environmental threats we face.

Conceived during the Covid pandemic and Black Lives Matter movement of the early 2020s, *Breath(e): Toward Climate and Social Justice* tries to address a wide range of problems. As an introductory wall text puts it, "breathing is an act of resistance and survival in the face of racial inequality and a global health crisis." The show attempts to address environmental threats ranging from rising temperatures and unpredictable flooding to deforestation and contaminated water supplies.

Unfortunately, the exhibition is a hit-or-miss affair when it comes to actually addressing such sweeping goals. Many of the works seem more interested in virtue signaling than in creating a compelling visual image or object.

For example, an array of video screens showing young people dancing on a rocky beach is technically sophisticated but mostly seems to demonstrate the dancers' wokeness. LaToya Ruby Frazier's photo essay on the water crisis in Flint, Michigan, is competent visual journalism but, at least for me, doesn't really rise to the level of fine art.



Brandon Ballengee, *MIA Highfin Blenny*, 2020, Deepwater Horizon source crude oil, Taylor/MC20 source crude, contaminated marshland sediment (oil, anaerobic bacteria, iron oxide), and Corexit 9500A (dispersant) on paper; courtesy of the artist and Jennifer Baahng Gallery, New York.

Brandon Ballengee's handsome series of small paintings of several fish and an eel draws your attention because they're extremely well executed. But the environmental significance of the works isn't clear until you read the wall label and learn that they are made with oil from the infamous Deepwater Horizon spill in the Gulf of Mexico.



Tiffany Chung, *stored in a jar: monsoon, drowning fish, color of water, and the floating world*, 2010–11, installation view, Plexiglas, wood veneer, plastic, aluminum, paint, steel, cable, foam, copper wire; Post Vidai Collection, courtesy of the artist. In left background, Yoshitomo Nara, *A Sinking Island Floating in a Sea Called Space*, No. 1 and 2, 2024, acrylic on canvas; No. 1, courtesy of the artist, Yoshitomo Nara Foundation, BLUM, and Pace Gallery; No. 2, private collection.

Tiffany Chung, whose Vietnamese family was ordered to move to the Mekong Delta in 1975, after the fall of Saigon, lived through disastrous flooding three years later. After emigrating to the United States and becoming an artist, in 2010-11 she created a huge model of a floating village that would be flood-resistant. The artwork, *stored in a jar: monsoon, drowning fish, color of water, and the floating world*, is meticulously crafted, though it's hard to grasp the meaning of the work until you read the accompanying wall text.

Still, there are artworks in the show that grab your attention immediately and require little explanation. For example, there's a pair of large 2024 paintings by Yoshitomo Nara called *A Sinking Island Floating in a Sea Called Space* (shown in the background of the above photograph). Each depicts a little girl who is almost up to her nose in water. One is angry, the other is anxious. "Why did you put me into this situation?" they seem to be asking.



Sandy Rodriguez, *YOU ARE HERE / Tovaangar / El Pueblo de Nuestra Senora la Reina de los*

Angeles de Porciuncula / Los Angeles, 2021, installation view, hand-processed watercolor with 23k gold on amate paper; The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, purchased with funds from the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee and the estate of George and Nancy Parsons. Photograph by Stephen West.

Another pair of paintings, Sandy Rodriguez's "You Are Here," is a faux-primitive map of the Los Angeles Basin before the Americans arrived. There are fish swimming in Santa Monica Bay, and a bear catching them for food; there's a huge cactus, a gnarly tree, birds overhead. The whole thing is topped by a thin rainbow extending the width of the two paintings. It's a fanciful, almost cartoonish scene, but you want to believe it.

Breath(e): Toward Climate and Social Justice runs through January 5, 2025, at the [Hammer Museum](#), 10899 Wilshire Boulevard, at Westwood Boulevard, in Los Angeles. The museum is closed Mondays. An extensive catalog is published by DelMonico Books.

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Navya Chitlur: "there's poetry in a last breath"

Navya Chitlur · Friday, October 18th, 2024

there's poetry in a last breath

by Navya Chitlur
10/12/24

side a: a dove falling from the clouds

how long will this last —

the waking & immediate crumbling
walking with wobbling legs and unshed tears
mourning for something you've forgotten the name of
longing for something you've never had

when will this end —

i'm scared of rolling off my bed and having to face the world
i'm scared of having people see me as if my body is a real thing
i'm scared of the fact that i exist & i'm scared of being scared

i woke up this morning immediately putting my headphones in to avoid the flooding of thoughts
and i sat on my chair blanket around my shoulders curled into a ball as i joined a class i didn't care
about and i wondered what it felt like to feel

i sat unmoving then watched a tv show about learning to breathe in a world that only serves to
break you to pieces and i cried when the girl finally smiled and imagined that someday that might
be me

the voice in my throat was gone and i couldn't talk and couldn't think and couldn't feel and
it feels so good to be dead but it feels so horrible to act alive when you know you exist

against all odds and
 you want nothing more than to die but you continue to exist for an indecipherable
 reason

i sat in front of the mirror today
 i do that sometimes

i liked the silence in my room and in my body
 i like the quiet
 it's when i can die in peace

i sat in front of the mirror and looked at my body and touched my face trying to tell myself i was
 real and i tapped my fingers against my shins as my arms wrapped around my knees because it felt
 good to feel so small
 i think i was dreaming of walls caving in and i was dreaming that nothing existed
 outside the door

how do you exist
 when you know you've never done anything good for the world
 and your only purpose is to burden everyone and everything
 you only look at your eyes in the mirror to tell yourself that
 no one likes people who are sad
 only sad people like people who are sad

 and that's why you're broken

it's been half a day now and i haven't gotten out of bed yet and i am home alone and that usually
 makes me smile because my safe haven extends from just my room to my entire house
 my parents are gone praying to the gods i don't believe in and i think i don't believe in god only
 because god never answered to me ever and i don't really believe in anything anyway

i keep waking up and falling back to sleep trying to sleep until i wake up and i no longer feel like
 something's wrong with me but it never happens
 i don't know why my body is broken and i don't know how to piece myself together

 the only thing i know is how to exist:
 you don't need to find a home in your body
 you just have to realize your bones aren't your bones and your blood is your
 best friend and
 watching it run reminds you you are human and your skin doesn't matter so
 your blood never ends
 you exist between breaths of air and between the seconds where your lungs
 collapse and expand again
 you exist in the white of your eyes you see in the mirror you look dead you
 look so dead you're
 dead and your eyes lose their light completely but

 it's easier to survive when you don't want to exist

there's something weird in the way your tongue falls across your mouth when you talk and the way
 your voice pushes itself out of your lips uncalled for unwanted just like you

i think it's because i am more human when i'm dying

i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive
alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive
alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive i'm alive

*

it's wings flap the air that form the breath between my cracked lips

something good will happen to you today

Virtual Reality in iGaming: Is VR the Next Big Thing in Online Gaming?

Our Friends · Friday, October 18th, 2024

As technology continues to redefine entertainment, one industry riding the digital wave is iGaming. Virtual Reality (VR) has rapidly emerged as one of the most exciting innovations in this space, offering a new level of immersion to players. Online casinos, in particular, are exploring VR as a way to take user engagement to unprecedented heights. But is Virtual Reality poised to become the next big thing in online gaming, or is it merely a fleeting trend?

In the world of online gaming, immersion is everything. Players no longer want to simply interact with screens — they want to feel like they're inside the game itself. This is where virtual reality steps in. By enabling players to enter fully realised 3D environments, VR technology delivers a deeply immersive gaming experience. Imagine walking through the plush interiors of a casino in **Las Vegas**, interacting with a dealer, or feeling the thrill of standing by a roulette table — all from the comfort of your home. It's a leap forward from the traditional online gambling setup, and it's exactly what today's tech-savvy audience craves.

For many in the industry, the adoption of VR technology seems inevitable. Any **online casino** that wants to stay ahead of the competition will want to pursue this technology. As VR headsets become more affordable and accessible, the barriers to entry for both players and developers are falling. More casinos are now experimenting with virtual reality platforms, seeking to offer more immersive, dynamic experiences to differentiate themselves in a crowded market.

However, integrating VR into iGaming isn't without challenges. The most significant hurdle is technological infrastructure. Creating an immersive VR environment requires high-speed internet, advanced graphic rendering, and, of course, players need VR headsets. While headsets like **Oculus Quest** and PlayStation VR have brought this tech into homes at more affordable prices, they remain out of reach for some. Online casinos must consider whether their audience is ready — and willing — to make this investment. Another challenge is the learning curve. VR-based games often require more physical interaction than traditional online casino games, which might be a deterrent for casual players accustomed to the simplicity of mobile gaming.

But the potential benefits of VR in iGaming are hard to overlook. One key advantage is the heightened social interaction VR offers. Many players miss the social aspect of physical casinos — the camaraderie with other players the banter with dealers. VR recreates this atmosphere, enabling live interactions in ways standard online platforms can't. Players can engage with avatars, make gestures, and even communicate via voice chat, bridging the gap between virtual and real-world experiences. This blend of the physical and digital is likely to appeal to a new generation of gamers who value connectivity and realism.

Looking ahead, the future of VR in online gaming is undeniably promising. With continued advancements in VR technology, including more intuitive interfaces and faster processing, the industry is on the brink of a revolution. The increased sophistication of these platforms means that VR casinos may soon become a mainstream alternative rather than a novelty for early adopters.

While it remains to be seen whether virtual Reality will dominate the online gaming space, its impact is already being felt. VR is certainly a frontier worth exploring for online casinos that aim

to stay competitive and deliver the next generation of gaming experiences. Whether it's a passing phase or a permanent shift, one thing is clear: Virtual Reality has introduced a new way of experiencing iGaming, one that offers players an escape unlike any before.

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From Persian Carpets to Modern Rugs: A Journey Through Design Evolution

Our Friends · Friday, October 18th, 2024

Rugs have long been more than just practical floor coverings; they are deeply woven into civilizations' cultural, artistic, and social fabric worldwide. The evolution of rug design is a fascinating story that spans centuries, from the creation of intricate Persian carpets to today's minimalist modern rugs. Each era and region brings its unique touch, influenced by cultural traditions and craftsmanship advancements. Whether used to beautify homes or communicate deeper cultural meanings, they offer a stunning blend of art and functionality that continues to evolve today.

If you want to bring a piece of this rich history into your home, you can easily do so by adding a traditional rug to your space. [Shop Oriental Rugs](#) to find timeless designs that reflect centuries of craftsmanship.

The Legacy of Persian Carpets

Persian carpets are known to be the best in quality, patterns, colors, and materials used in rugs. The history of Persian carpet weaving goes back more than 2,500 years to ancient Persia, today's Iran. During that period, these carpets were not mere articles of funding; they were signs of richness, power, and spiritual value.

Every region of Persia pioneered its own style of weaving, which included different motifs and shades of color. Cities such as Isfahan, Tabriz, and [Kashan](#) got their particular designs, starting with flowers and ending with geometric forms. It took Persian weavers many years to create a single carpet, and what they produced was more of an art piece than a rug.

These carpets were so important that they were used in royal palaces and grand mosques and as cash in business. Persian carpets were considered a status symbol, and only the richest in society could afford to own one. Due to their quality and design, Persian carpets became one of Europe's most sought-after luxury goods in the Renaissance period, making them part of history.

However, Persian carpets have been so popular for centuries because of their non-modern look. Nevertheless, these products are as relevant as ever today and are still used in interior design to emphasize or tone down the classic and the modern.

The Transition to Modern Design of Rugs

When the world entered the twentieth century, rug designs, like other areas of art and craftsmanship, started to evolve. Modern rug design stands out from the intricate patterns and complex designs of Persian carpets and other traditional floor coverings. However, contemporary ones tend to be less elaborate, less figurative, more geometric, and usually painted in soft pastel colors.

Such change is typical of certain trends in art and architecture of the period, notably Modernism, which was marked by rejecting the ornate and returning to basics. This led to the production of these products that were more than just art works but were objects that could blend into a room and be used. These products were usually designed using geometric shapes, abstract shapes, and bright combinations of colors that went well with modern interiors.

However, contrary to the look of modern rugs, modern rugs are much less complex than antique ones, although the work behind the creation of the modern rug is far from less complex. Many modern varieties are still manually woven and manufactured according to the methods inherited from ancestors. Combining traditional artisanal techniques with contemporary design guarantees that the present-day rug are as hard-wearing and well-made as their antecedents, with less ornamentation.

However, not only were aesthetic changes observed in the modern rug design, but new materials and technologies also appeared. While earlier Persian carpets used natural materials such as wool and silk to make the carpets, today, carpets come in all materials, including synthetic material that is longer than natural and easy to clean. Such flexibility gives homeowners ample opportunity to select rugs based on their tastes and preferences and the house's functionality.

The Cultural Continuity in Design of Rugs

Modern designs notwithstanding, the cultural significance of rug weaving has not changed. Persian carpets and traditional rugs remain popular sources from which contemporary designs are derived to maintain the future of rug arts. Today, most rug makers draw inspiration from the patterns of the past and put them into contemporary settings.

For example, a modern rug may incorporate Art Deco geometric forms but be produced by hand using methods that have been used for thousands of years. This combination allows rug designers to create a product that is modern yet traditional in its making.

Also, the trend of hand-knotted, artisanal rugs can be observed as more and more consumers look for handmade rugs because of their quality, exclusivity, or even eco-friendliness. As such, old-school rug-making methods are still practiced while new styles are incorporated into the designs of the rugs.

Conclusion

Rugs as art pieces, from the ornate Persian designs of the Old Ages to the sleek, no-nonsense rugs

of the current generation, are a history lesson waiting to happen. Modern rugs have adopted simplicity and abstract shapes but are rooted in the history of the old rugs. Whether you like intricate carvings of Persian carpets or the simple elegance of modern ones, all of them have their own story and are both art and convenience at the same time that changes the space.

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Collaborate and Conquer: The Power of Group Learning in Law Student Success

Our Friends · Friday, October 18th, 2024

Group learning cultivates an environment where students can share diverse perspectives, challenge preconceived notions, and collectively construct a more profound understanding of the subject matter.

For example, when students struggle with an academic problem, they can find a solution faster if they look for it together. If they require more sophisticated input on some complex law assignment, they can choose a reliable company and get [law essay help](#) from experts. This synergistic approach fosters friendships, critical thinking, problem-solving abilities, and a deeper appreciation for the complexities of the material at hand.

By embracing group learning, students are empowered to tackle the complexities of the world of law, where teamwork and effective communication are paramount. The ability to collaborate effectively is a highly sought-after skill in various legal spheres, and group learning provides an ideal platform for students to hone these essential competencies.

Benefits of collaborative learning

The benefits of collaborative learning extend far beyond mere academic achievement. Here are some notable advantages:

1. Improved knowledge retention: When students engage in group discussions, they actively process and articulate information, which leads to enhanced comprehension and long-term retention of the material.
2. Exposure to diverse perspectives: Collaboration exposes students to a range of viewpoints, experiences, and approaches, broadening their intellectual horizons and fostering a more nuanced understanding of complex topics.
3. Enhanced communication and interpersonal skills: Group learning activities promote active listening, effective communication, conflict resolution, and the ability to respectfully consider

and integrate differing opinions.

4. Increased motivation and engagement: Working in groups can foster a sense of accountability and shared responsibility, motivating students to contribute actively and engage more deeply with the learning material.
5. Development of teamwork and leadership skills: Collaborative learning environments provide opportunities for students to practice teamwork, delegation, and leadership skills, which are invaluable assets in both academic and professional contexts.

How group learning enhances critical thinking skills

Critical thinking is a fundamental skill essential for navigating the complexities of the legal world. Group learning provides a fertile ground for cultivating and refining critical thinking abilities through various mechanisms:

1. Active engagement and discussion: Group discussions encourage students to articulate their thoughts, defend their positions, and respond to counterarguments, fostering the development of logical reasoning, evidence-based argumentation, and analytical skills.
2. Collaborative problem-solving: When faced with complex problems or challenges, group members must collectively analyze the situation, evaluate potential solutions, and make informed decisions, improving their critical thinking abilities in the process.
3. Peer feedback and evaluation: Receiving constructive feedback from peers and engaging in peer evaluation activities promote self-reflection, critical analysis, and the ability to objectively assess one's work and ideas.

Challenges and solutions for effective group learning

While group learning offers numerous advantages, implementing it effectively can present challenges. Here are some common challenges and potential solutions:

1. **Uneven participation and free-riding:**
 - Challenge: Some group members may contribute less than others, leading to an uneven distribution of workload and resentment among more active participants.
 - Solution: Establish clear expectations for individual contributions, implement peer evaluations, and consider incorporating individual accountability measures.
2. **Interpersonal conflicts and communication breakdowns:**
 - Challenge: Disagreements, personality clashes, or communication barriers can hinder effective collaboration and impede group progress.
 - Solution: Provide training on conflict resolution strategies, active listening, and effective communication. Encourage open dialogue and facilitate mediation when necessary.
3. **Logistical challenges:**
 - Challenge: Coordinating schedules, managing group dynamics, and ensuring equitable access to resources can be logistically challenging, especially in larger groups or online environments.
 - Solution: Leverage technology tools for communication, file sharing, and project management. Offer flexible meeting options and clear guidelines for resource allocation.
4. **Assessment and grading concerns:**
 - Challenge: Assessing individual contributions and fairly grading group work can be challenging.

- Solution: Implement a combination of individual and group assessments, utilize peer evaluations, and provide clear rubrics for grading collaborative work.

5. **Lack of experience or training:**

- Challenge: Students may lack prior experience or training in effective collaboration, hindering their ability to fully benefit from group learning activities.
- Solution: Get explicit instruction and guidance on collaboration strategies, team roles, and effective group processes. Model and reinforce these skills throughout the course.

By proactively addressing these challenges and implementing appropriate solutions, it's possible to create a more conducive environment for successful group learning experiences, maximizing the benefits for student success and personal growth.

Examples of successful group learning activities

Group learning can take many forms, ranging from structured in-class activities to more extensive collaborative law projects. Here are some examples of successful group learning activities that can be adapted to various themes and grade levels:

1. **Jigsaw activities:** In this technique, students are divided into “home” groups and assigned different parts of a larger topic or problem. They then form “expert” groups to explore their assigned portion in depth before returning to their home groups to share their expertise and collectively piece all the data together, forming a complete understanding.
2. **Think-Pair-Share:** This simple yet effective strategy begins with an individual reflection on a question or prompt (think), followed by discussing and sharing ideas with a partner (pair), and finally, culminating in a whole-class discussion where groups share their insights (share).
3. **Case studies and problem-based learning:** Students work in groups to analyze real-world case studies or tackle complex, open-ended problems. This approach fosters critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and the application of theoretical knowledge to practical legal scenarios.
4. **Collaborative research projects:** Groups are tasked with conducting research on a specific topic, synthesizing information from various sources, and presenting their findings in a comprehensive report or presentation.
5. **Peer review and editing:** Students exchange and provide feedback on each other's written work, fostering critical analysis, effective communication, and the ability to incorporate constructive criticism.
6. **Simulations and role-playing:** Groups engage in simulated scenarios or role-playing exercises, allowing them to apply their knowledge in a realistic legal context and develop skills such as decision-making, negotiation, and empathy.
7. **Online discussions and collaborative writing:** In online or hybrid learning environments, students can participate in asynchronous discussions, collaborative writing projects, or virtual group presentations using various digital tools and platforms.

These examples illustrate the versatility and adaptability of group learning activities, which can be tailored to suit diverse learning objectives, topics, and educational settings.

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How To Make Closure Wigs Look Natural in 2024

Our Friends · Friday, October 18th, 2024

Lots of ladies do not know that they can customize their closure wigs to look natural. **Closure wigs** have become increasingly popular, especially in women who want to protect their natural hair. Several wig bundles can be used with lace closures of different sizes including 2×4, 2×6, 4×4, 5×5, 6×6, 13×6, 13×4, 7×7, 8×5, etc.

Closure wig manufacturers aim to have a wig that blends in with the scalp perfectly, leaving no trace of being 'fake'. This can be achieved only when you use a human hair closure wig; the blend is beyond words.

This article will expose you to how to make your lace closure look more natural.

What Is a Closure Wig?

The 'closure' in a closure wig is primarily made of lace material which blends into the skin. The lace of these wigs is primarily made from Swiss lace, transparent lace, or hd lace. It is not designed like the frontal wigs which cover the whole head, rather most closures are found either at the center or side.

These wigs are so comfortable to wear and can be parted to any side of the face. This depends on the size of the closure purchased. Some of the most popular sizes have been mentioned above. A few of the lace closures come pre-plucked, highly ventilated, and with some strands of baby hairs in front ready for styling.

Tips On How to Make Closure Wigs Look More Natural

With the background information we now have on closure wigs, let's proceed to how we can make these wigs look more natural. These tips will open you up to all the possibilities you could consider when putting on a closure wig at your convenience.

Buy a Human Hair Wig

For an outstanding natural look, opt for a human hair wig. **Human hair wigs** are second to none compared with its counterpart the synthetic wigs, which cannot give off the natural vibe the human hair gives. The natural shine and feel of these wigs cannot be replicated in any other wig type.

So, buying a synthetic wig with a quality closure is somewhat of a waste of money and effort because the overall look would still not be so natural. Save up some money, and add a human hair wig to your collection of goodness.

Select a Matching Closure Wig

Another vital tip to looking more natural with wigs is selecting a quality closure lace that blends in with your exact skin tone on the scalp. This is as crucial as selecting a good type of closure wig. Check out the various color shades and know your exact **skin tone** and body complexion.

In addition to this, select a style of closure wig that matches your natural hair. For example, if your natural hair is straight, opt for straight wigs. The same goes for tight curls, loose curls, and waves.

Customize Your Closure Wig



For individual preferences and styles, customize your closure wigs to suit your facial shape. Make use of styling tools to achieve your desired view. Also carefully lay down your baby hairs to give your face better shape.

The goal of this customization is to ensure that after wearing your closure wigs, it looks as natural as possible. Customization of the closure wig also includes trimming of excess lace which should

be done with small sharp scissors or a tweezer. Remember to leave a few inches of lace in front.

Proper Wig Installation

Anybody can install a closure wig because of its nature. All you need is constant practice and effort; the results will be awestruck. For both glueless and glued methods of installation, you have to be very careful during the whole process.

Once you can position it properly along the edges of the head from front to back, see to it that it is tightly placed and secured without a cause for fear of shifting or lifting during the day. For extra security, use pins, combs, and hair clips.

In the case of any difficulty and uncertainties, visit a professional hair stylist around you to guide you through the process of installation.

Blend Your Closure Wigs In

Now that the wigs are seated firmly on the scalp, go ahead and pick up your makeup concealer that is the exact shade of your skin. Use the tip of your makeup brush to take a little quantity and apply it generously on the lace in front and the partings. Finish up with some powder from your pallet.

At this stage, also focus on the knots that would require bleaching. These extra touch-ups create a natural, clean, and seamless appearance for your closure wig. You will love it!

Styling Pro Max

Hurray! Your closure wigs are ready to be styled. The versatility of these wigs allows them to be styled into various forms and patterns for every function, birthday, office wear, and casual wear.

Avoid over-styling especially with heat above 80°C. This will cause more harm than good. If you must use heat styling too, consider getting a high-quality heat protectant gel, cream, or spray. These products will prevent extra damage to your closure wigs. To prevent this from occurring, use low-medium heat. Accessorize your closure wigs if you prefer with headbands, fancy pins, and clips.

The Right Way to Maintain Your Closure Wigs

Follow the right path, and you'll be amazed at how gorgeous your wigs will become over the years. There are ladies out there who still do it the wrong way and are not aware of how to right their wrongs. This section will summarize the tricks you need to maintain your closure wigs, even at home.

Pamper and Care for it Regularly

This is important in keeping your closure wig in check for an extended time. Look out for any form of wear and tear that could limit the shine of these wigs. Avoid rough handling them to prevent spot baldness.

Brushing Closure Wigs

Be careful when it comes to the Lace in front and try to work your way up there gently. With the

head of a good brush or comb you can achieve this with minimal tension.

Purchase Quality Hair Products

When it comes to buying products, go for the best in terms of usage, reviews, ratings, and feedback from users. Spend some dollars on high-quality hair lotions, hair creams, hair serums, hair oils, and gels. The more quality your products are, the more moisturizing and softer the wigs will become. By doing so, it becomes easy to style your wigs into curls and waves.

Conclusion

We have different ways to make our closure wigs look more natural at our fingertips. Review this article over and over again and make the necessary corrections in your wig care routine.

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Top Sports Apps for Home Fitness

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It goes without saying that many people love sports and love to live an active life. Sports provide us with fit and beautiful bodies, strong muscles, prevent us from injuries or pains, help us to awaken positive emotions, and improve our mental health. Moreover, sports connect people, bring families and friends together, and give us more reasons to meet people we love.

People love not only doing sports but also watching it in bars or at home. Such online matches give us an opportunity to be a part of big events like the Olympic Games, worldwide tournaments, and other competitions.

Watching sports can be more active and exciting for those who practice betting on favourite teams or athletes. Sports wagering is a dynamic, but risky way of result prediction and earning money. **Responsible Gaming** features must be taken into consideration by every bettor before placing a wager. This knowledge will help them to minimize risks and make an informed choice, while having the same amount of fun.

Sport is available for everybody all over the world and easy to do in any place you like: in a gym, outdoors, in the office, or even at home.

Top Sports Apps

When the weather is terrible or you don't feel well enough to train in a gym but you can do some

stretching or yoga, it's better to stay at home. Sports apps will help you to stay active even on such bad days.

There is a wide range of sports apps, free and paid, for women and men, for powerlifting and stretching, etc.

The best apps provide people not only with a number of exercises to do alone at home but also wise programs to build muscles, be strong, improve flexibility, speed, and other aspects you want to workout.

Let's look at the top 5 sports apps for everybody to train at home. Choose what you like the most, or keep searching to find an ideal app.

Best Apps to Train at Home

Centr

Paid: \$29.99 per month.

This app was designed by Chris Hemsworth and combines programs for full body training: strength workouts for beginners or advanced athletes, yoga classes, and meditation to train your mind.

Pros:

- A variety of training programs
- Home and gym exercises
- Meal plans

Cons:

- You cannot play your own music through a smartphone

Nike Training Club

Free.

It's a free app with instructor-led exercises to help build particular groups of muscles and improve mental health.

Pros:

- All content is free
- Classes labelled by intensity
- Workouts for home
- Connection to Apple Watch and Apple Music

Cons:

- Nike has removed some programs

Fiit

Paid: \$9.99 a month.

This app is also for everyone because you can do cardio or weightlifting with or without any equipment. There are also exercises for breathwork and clear metric monitoring.

Pros:

- A wide range of classes
- All the group classes are free to use
- Coaches popular around the world

Cons:

- More features will open only if you pay for the app

Sweat

Paid: \$19.99 per month.

It's one of the best apps for women, which was created by a personal coach, Kayla Itsines. Here are plenty of programs and exercises that will suit everyone – from mom who starts training after giving birth to ladies who just want to keep fit without lifting big weights.

Pros:

- Easy to follow
- Meal and nutrition plans
- Work with Apple Watch

Cons:

- You'll need to tap the screen during workouts

Evolve you

Paid: \$16.99 per month.

If you appreciate it to mix your activities in a gym with cardio or yoga, this app is for you. There are 6 trainers with sets of exercises to choose from.

Pros:

- Training programs with real trainers
- Easy to use
- On-demand classes

Cons:

- Can be glitchy

To choose the best and most suitable workout app, you should understand simply what you like, what you're interested in, what goals you have, and do you have any health conditions that should be taken into account before starting to do sports.

Many paid apps have a free trial period, which you can use to see all the opportunities of a particular app and practice exercises.

The main point here is that you are willing to be active, be sportive, and include sports into your everyday life as enjoyable moments.

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